

BY-LAW ARTICLE XXIX

Softball

Girls

Sect. 1: Softball shall be administered by the NHIAA Softball Committee and the rules of the National Federation will govern the sport when applicable. The "Fast Pitch 12" Softball Rules of the National Federation will be used to govern all interscholastic softball games.

Sect. 2: Results of games played in all classes (L, I, M, S) must be posted on the NHIAA website immediately following the game. Failure to do so may result in teams being eliminated from tournament consideration.

Sect. 3: Schedule Requirements

All schedules must be submitted to the Executive Director on or before the deadline date of February 1st of each year. It is strongly recommended that in drawing up interschool schedules, Thursday of each week be left open for the purposes of rescheduling due to postponements, etc. Schools may schedule three (3) in-class opponents three times.

Sect. 4: NOCSAE approved equipment must be used in all NHIAA contests.

Sect. 5: Tournament Rosters

All tournament teams will be limited to a maximum of twenty-three (23) individuals, with no more than eighteen (18) of them being players in uniform.

Sect. 6: Suspended Games

If weather or darkness interferes with play so that the game is called (ended) by the umpire, it is a regulation game: (a) if five innings have been played, or if the home team has scored an equal or greater number of runs in four, or four and a fraction terms at bat than the visiting team has scored in five terms at bat; or (b) if play has gone beyond five full innings.

In (b), if the game is called when the teams have not had an equal number of completed terms at bat, the score shall be the same as it was at the end of the last completed inning; except that if the home team in its half of the uncompleted inning, scores a run (or runs) which equals or exceeds the opponent's score, the final score shall be as recorded when the game is called.

A game called for any reason, where a winner cannot be determined, or any game called at any time for mechanical failure (i.e., artificial lights, water systems, etc.) will be treated as a suspended game. If the game is to be completed, it will be completed from the point of suspension, with the line-up and batting order of each team the same as the line-up and batting order at the moment of suspension, subject to the rules of the game.

Sect. 7: Tournament Selection

Tournament team selection will be determined in accordance with the present classification system. Sixteen (16) teams will qualify for the Class L, I, M and S tournaments.

Sect. 8: Selection of Tournament Sites

Preliminary and quarterfinal round games will be played at the site of the highest seeded team. The semifinal, and final rounds will be played at sites selected by the Committee. Final games and times at neutral sites will be rotated on a yearly basis.

Sect. 9: Awards

Official NHIAA championship and runner-up plaques, in addition to 20 individual medals, will be awarded to the respective champion and runner-up teams in each class.